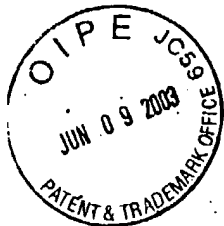


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

6

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/046,453
Filing Date	10/19/2001
First Named Inventor	Frederic P. Field et al.
Group Art Unit	3721
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	ONUX-16

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
HJ		2613562		Clark	10-14-1952	
		2897820		Tauber	08-04-1959	
		3404677		Springer	10-08-1968	
		3470875		Johnson	10-07-1969	
		3584628		Green	06-15-1971	
		3802438		Holvek	04-09-1974	
		3807407		Schweizer	04-30-1974	
		3841521		Jarvik	10-15-1974	
		3877570		Barry	04-15-1975	
		3959960		Santos	06-01-1976	
		4006747		Kronenthal et al.	02-08-1977	
		4027608		Arbuckle	06-07-1977	
		4109658		Hughes	08-29-1978	
		4204541		Kapitanov	05-27-1980	
		4235177		Arbuckle	11-25-1980	
		4258716		Sutherland	03-13-1981	
HJ		4453661		Genyk et al.	06-12-1984	
		4462404		Schwarz et al.	07-31-1984	
		4474181		Schenck	10-02-1984	
		4553543		Amarasinghe	11-19-1985	

RECEIVED
JUN 13 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
		Office ³	Number ²	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
Signature

Dany Jackson

Date

Considered

March 4, 2004

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

+

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

**Complete if Known**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

2

10

6

10/046,453

10/19/2001

Frederic P

3721

Unknown

ONUX-16

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ¹ (if known)			
22		4557265		Andersson	12-10-1985	
		4583541		Barry	04-22-1986	
		4602636		Noiles	07-29-1986	
		4607637		Berggren et al.	08-26-1986	
		4624257		Berggren et al.	11-25-1986	
		4643190		Heimberger	02-17-1987	
		4644651		Jacobsen	02-24-1987	
		4747358		Moll et al.	05-31-1988	
		4760848		Hasson	08-02-1988	
		4763669		Jaeger	08-16-1988	
		4803984		Narayanan et al.	02-14-1989	
		4819635		Shapiro	04-11-1989	
		4890615		Caspari et al.	01-02-1990	
		4901721		Hakki	02-20-1990	
		4915107		Rebuffat et al.	04-10-1990	
		4923461		Caspari et al.	05-08-1990	
		4935027		Yoon	06-19-1990	
	47		4938214		Specht et al.	07-03-1990
		4941466		Romano	07-17-1990	
		4955887		Zirm	09-11-1990	

RECEIVED
JUN 18 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER #3700

[illegible]

Gary Jackson

Considered

March 4, 2004

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**



+

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/046,453
Filing Date	10/19/2001
First Named Inventor	Frederic P. Field et al.
Group Art Unit	3721
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	ONUX-16

Sheet 3 of 6

Sheet 3 of 6

Attorney Docket Number	ONUX-16
------------------------	---------



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
ES		4957498		Caspari et al.	09-18-1990	
		5002564		McGregor et al.	03-26-1991	
		5004469		Palmieri et al.	04-02-1991	
		5133735		Slater et al.	07-28-1992	
		5172256		Smith et al.	12-15-1992	
		5174300		Bales et al.	12-29-1992	
		5192298		Smith et al.	03-09-1993	
		5217465		Steppe	06-08-1993	
		5219357		Honkanen et al.	06-15-1993	
		5234453		Smith et al.	08-10-1993	
		5242459		Buelna	09-07-1993	
		5261917		Hasson et al.	11-16-1993	
		5290284		Adair	03-01-1994	
		5304183		Gourlay et al.	04-19-1994	
		5306281		Beurrier	04-26-1994	
		5308353		Beurrier	05-03-1994	
		5308357		Lichtman	05-03-1994	
		5324308		Pierce	06-28-1994	
		5333625		Klein	08-02-1994	
ES		5356424		Buzerak et al.	10-18-1994	

RECEIVED

JUN 13 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER B3700

RECEIVED
JUN 13 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER B3700

[illegible]

Gary Jackson

Considered

March 4, 2004

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

+

+

A circular black ink stamp. The text "O I P E J C 5 9" is curved along the top inner edge. The date "JUN 09 2003" is stamped in the center. The text "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" is curved along the bottom inner edge.

Complete If Known

(use as many sheets as necessary).

Sheet

4

of

6

Application Number

10/046,453

Filing Date

10/19/2001

First Named Inventor

Frederic P. Field et al.

Group Art Unit

3721

Examiner Name _____

Unknown

Attorney Docket Number.

ONUX-16

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.†	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (# known)			
49		5370658		Scheller et al.	12-06-1994	
		5372604		Trott	12-13-1994	
		5386741		Rennex	02-07-1995	
		5411522		Trott	05-02-1995	
		5417701		Holmes	05-23-1995	
		5423821		Pasque	06-13-1995	
		5431670		Holmes	07-11-1995	
		5437681		Meade et al.	08-01-1995	
		5474554		Ku	12-12-1995	
		5478093		Bibi et al.	12-26-1995	
		5496334		Klundt et al.	03-05-1996	
		5498256		Furnish	03-12-1996	
		5500001		Trott	03-19-1996	
		5501683		Trott	03-26-1996	
		5501688		Whiteside et al.	03-26-1996	
		5501692		Riza	03-26-1996	
		5501698		Roth et al.	03-26-1996	
		5571119		Atala	11-05-1996	
48		5618306		Roth et al.	04-08-1997	
		5674230		Tovey et al.	10-07-1997	

RECEIVED

JUN 13 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R370

[illegible]

**Examiner
Signature**

Gary Jackson

Date _____

Considered

March 4, 2004

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

+

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/046,453
Filing Date	10/19/2001
First Named Inventor	Frederic P. Field et al.
Group Art Unit	3721
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	ONUX-16

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

6

of

6

Attorney Docket Number

ONUX-16



OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner
Initials:

Cite
No.:

Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

13

~~Auto Suture Company, VES Clip Applier System, undated~~

RECEIVED

JUN 13 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**Examiner
Signature**

Gerry Jackson

Date _____

Considered

March 4, 2004

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

